

OREGON TREE FARM SYSTEM

Our Values: Connectivity; Collaboration; Stewardship; Inclusivity; Gratitude
Our Mission: Empowering private landowners to manage their forests sustainably
Our Purpose: Impacting the world by making Oregon a better place one acre at a time

OREGON TREE FARM SYSTEM WANTS YOUR INPUT!

October 28, 2022

Dear Oregon Tree Farm Members,

Hello from us, Steve & Wylda Cafferata, your OTFS Co-Chairs! We are thinking of each of you and your tree farm signs that show you manage your forest lands sustainably. We have five Tree Farm issues to tell you about and on which we hope you will give us your input. It would be great to hear from you on any or all of these issues before November 15th, the sooner the better. You can call us 541-797-9734, or email us at wyldac@gmail.com.

1. New Board Members

We have at least one open position on the OTFS Board. New Board members need to be approved by the membership, but the Board can appoint new members to serve temporarily until the next membership meeting. We are looking for woodland owners willing to bring their energy to six board meetings a year, and to serve on one of our working groups: Finance, Governance, Communication, Recognition, Certification, or Landowners Journey. Most board meetings, which typically last two hours, are conducted by ZOOM, with one or possibly two in-person meetings. Our vision, which we strive to make into reality, is to become a highly motivated and inspired group of volunteers and board members who enjoy working together in a highly functional infrastructure. Please let us know if you would like to join the board, or if you would like more information.

2. New Treasurer

OTFS needs a new treasurer. Our current OTFS Treasurer, Dick Beers, has faithfully served OTFS for more years than almost anyone can remember, but wants to hand the position over to someone younger. There are three options to consider:

- A. Like Dick, the new treasurer could manage all parts of the job, including receiving donations, writing checks, preparing reports for the board and membership, and keeping Quick Books.

- B. OTFS could potentially hire a book-keeping service to manage the Quick Books portion of the position and generate reports.
- C. We know of at least one forestry-related non-profit whose books are kept at no cost by an accounting firm friendly to forestry. If anyone knows of a company who might be willing to do this for us, we would be very happy to discuss this possibility.

Please contact us with your thoughts.

3. **New Secretary**

OTFS is in need of a secretary whose primary task is taking minutes at board meetings. Speaking as someone who has taken lots of minutes, it is a great way of concentrating on what is being discussed. There's an easy template to follow. Let us know if this is something you can contribute.

4. **Tree Farm Inspections**

As most of you know, OTFS's goal is to re-certify every OTFS certified tree farm every five years. Most of you know we are far behind in achieving this goal and have been for many years. However, we are working hard to develop strategies to catch up. We are grateful for our volunteer inspectors and District Coordinators' dedication. This year we have completed about 90 certifications. If it has been longer than five years since you have received a visit from one of our inspectors, we hope to reach you before long. If you want to jump-start the process, contact us.

5. **Thank you for your Donations**

The entire Oregon Tree Farm Board of Directors is grateful for and humbled by your response to our request for donations earlier this year. We are using these funds to the best of our ability to accomplish our purpose of impacting the world by making Oregon a better place one acre at a time. Our main goals for 2023 are to improve communication with all OTFS certified tree farm members; continue to build a strong OTFS system; and catch up on overdue recertifications.

These five are all vital issues to OTFS as we strive to accomplish our mission of empowering private landowners to manage their forests sustainably. Please contact us with your thoughts. We look forward to hearing from you!

Steve & Wylda